



Search Warrant Task Force
Reviewing Committee
September 14, 2021

Minutes

- I. Review Committee convened at 1:20 p.m. All members attended the meeting: Foster Cotthoff, Ed Massey, Joe Monroe, Damon Preston (virtually), Joseph Ross, and Rob Sanders (virtually).
- II. Opening Comments:
 - a. Members of the committee discussed the style and scope of their upcoming presentation before the taskforce on October 21 in Somerset.
- III. Discussion
 - a. Next, the committee shared reactions to the Securing Committee's presentation, discussing prosecutorial oversight in search warrants, the possibility of a boundary on the age of information used in these warrants, and the concept of a permanent committee like the external child fatality review panel.
 - b. The committee also deliberated over whether these recommendations would inspire greater public trust in the reviewing stage of search warrants. Mr. Massey suggested that recommendations should inspire public confidence and be flexible enough to be easily implemented by large and small offices.
 - c. Then the members expressed their thoughts on whether the pandemic has affected the process used to review search warrants. Some members mentioned it had slowed the process initially but that things were mostly back to normal due to electronic delivery methods.
 - d. The committee returned to final planning for their presentation in October. They determined topics, speakers, and the recommendations they intended to share with the committee.
- IV. Adjournment
 - a. Mr. Ross motioned to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Monroe seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 2:06 p.m.